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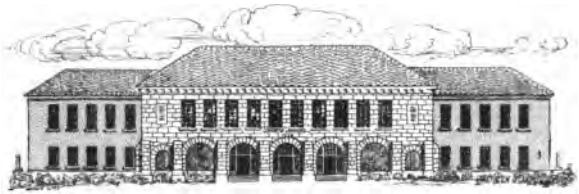

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THE GOOD TIME PRIMER

BY

F. GRACE SEYMOUR

"Reading should be the correct interpretation of written thought."

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY

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PREFACE.

There are few teachers who have not felt the need of a larger amount of easy reading matter for beginning classes than is usually found in books designed for pupils in the first years of school life. It is the object of this book to supply this need.

This little book contains words frequently repeated in order to make the beginner's progress as easy and agreeable as possible. It is believed that the frequent repetition of words in the new lessons will give the beginner a feeling of confidence that will make the difficult task of learning to read a delight rather than a burden.

The nature lessons, consisting of questions designed to stimulate the powers of observation, may be made to serve a highly useful purpose in the education of the child during the first year in school. Besides increasing the learner's interest in the world of nature about him, these lessons may be made useful in training the power of expression. The lessons, it will be seen, are planned to aid the children in understanding the selections from Hiawatha contained in the book. The author has found that the legend of Hiawatha appeals to children in the first year of school, and may in consequence be made a means of valuable instruction. If children are led to imagine the scenes described in the poem, they will show great delight in learning:—

"Heard the whispering of the pine trees."

They will seek to imitate the hero of the poem and will

"Learn of every bird its language."

If this method is followed with each line of Hiawatha, the pupils will easily express their ideas by means of paper-cutting, drawing, painting and in oral and written language.

The power of good literature upon the lives of children is far-reaching in its results. Since character-building is the aim of all school work, this little book contains in simple form a number of stories intended to teach perseverance, obedience, truthfulness, and love. While it is the primary purpose of these stories to hold the attention of the pupil, the author has tried to make them the medium for teaching those great truths which will help the pupils in our primary grades to become like Him who said,

"Suffer little children to come unto me."

THE AUTHOR.

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THE GOOD TIME PRIMER.

Mamma has a baby.
Baby has a cradle.
Kate has a kitty.

Mamma can rock baby.
Kate can rock kitty.
Baby has a kitty.

Baby can rock kitty.
Mamma can rock Kate.
Kate has a cradle.

Can Kate rock baby?
Kate can rock baby.
Can Kate rock mamma?

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Baby has a kitty.

Baby has a dog.

The dog can run.

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The kitty can run.
Can baby run?
Baby is little.

Baby can not run.
Can baby rock the dog?
Baby can rock the kitty.

Baby can not rock the dog.
Kate has a little dog.
Kate can rock the dog.

Mamma has a little kitty.
Kate can rock the kitty.
Kate can not rock mamma.

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I can run.

I can jump.

Kate can run.

Baby can not run.

Can baby jump?

Baby can not jump.

Can Kate jump?

Kate is big.

Kate can jump.

Kate's dog can jump.

Can mamma run?

Mamma can run.

Mamma can jump.

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See the little doll.
See the little cradle.
Kate has a big doll.
Kate can rock the big doll.

Baby has a little doll.
The doll has little feet.
Baby has little feet.
Baby can rock the little doll.
Kate can rock baby in the cradle.

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See Kate!

Kate sees a frog.

Kate has a dog.

The dog sees the frog.

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Kate has a little kitty.
Kitty sees the frog.
Can the frog see the kitty?
Can the frog see the dog?

Kitty has little feet.
The frog has little feet.
Kate likes the frog.
The frog likes Kate.

Can the frog run?
Can the frog jump?
The dog likes the kitty.
The kitty likes the frog.
The dog likes the frog.

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See the dog run!

The dog sees the kitty.

See kitty run.

The dog can not have the kitty.

Where is kitty?

Kitty is in the tree.

See Kate in the tree.

Kate has a little doll.

Where is the little doll?

The doll is in the tree.

Kate has a big doll.

Where is the big doll?

The big doll is in the cradle.

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THE NEW WHIP.

C. Burton Barber.

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See John!

John likes the dogs.

The dogs like John.

John likes to play.

The dogs like to play.

John has a big kitty.

The kitty likes to play.

The kitty likes to jump.

The dogs like the kitty.

The kitty likes the dogs.

John has a little doll.

John likes to rock the doll.

Can John rock the kitty?

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I see a bird.
The bird has a nest.
Where is the nest?
The nest is in the tree.
The bird has baby birds.

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Where are the baby birds?

The baby birds are in the nest.

The baby birds have a cradle.

Where is the cradle?

The nest is the birds' cradle.

Rock-a-bye baby,
On the tree-top,
When the wind blows
The cradle will rock,
When the bough breaks
The cradle will fall,
Down will come baby
Cradle and all.

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I see a ——— leaf.

The leaf has a ——— stem.

The ——— rocks the leaf.

The leaf ——— on a tree.

Can you make a picture of a maple leaf?

Can you find a maple leaf?

Have you a maple tree?

Does it look like an apple tree?

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Kate has a little leaf.
John has a big leaf.
Kate has a little cradle.
The little dog is in the cradle.

John has a big leaf.
Where is the big leaf?
The leaf is in John's hat.
Where is John's hat?

John's hat is in the tree.
Where is baby's hat?
Baby's hat is in the cradle.
Kate has a little bird.

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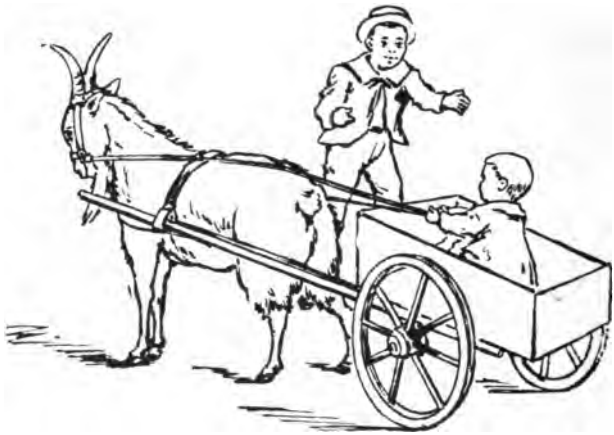

The goat likes to run.
The goat likes to jump.
Baby likes the goat.
Baby likes to ride.
See the goat's feet.
The goat has little feet.
The goat likes apples.
Have you a goat?
Can you ride a goat?

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What is your name?

Have you a dog?

What is your dog's name?

Can you ride your dog?

Have you a big goat?

Can you ride your goat?

What is your papa's name?

Where is your papa?

Where is your mamma?

What is your mamma's name?

Have you a bird?

What is your bird's name?

Have you a big doll?

Has your doll a hat?

Where is your hat?

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How do you do, birdie?

What is your name?

My name is _____.

Have you a nest?

I have a big nest.

Where is it?

I can not see it, birdie.

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It is in a hole in the tree.

Who made the hole, birdie?

I made it.

How did you do it?

I did it with my _____.

What do you eat?

Have you a baby bird?

Where is your baby bird?

Can your baby bird fly?

What can the baby bird eat?

How can the baby get it?

Can you fly fast?

I see your _____ toes.

You have _____ toes.

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John has a little kitty.

Kitty's name is _____.

John has a big dog.

The dog's name is _____.

The kitty has _____ toes.

The dog has _____ toes.

Kitty can run up a tree.

Why can kitty run up a tree?

The dog can not run up a tree.

Why can't the dog run up a tree?

Can you hear the dog run?

Can you hear the kitty run?

Why can't you hear kitty run?

How can kitty drink?

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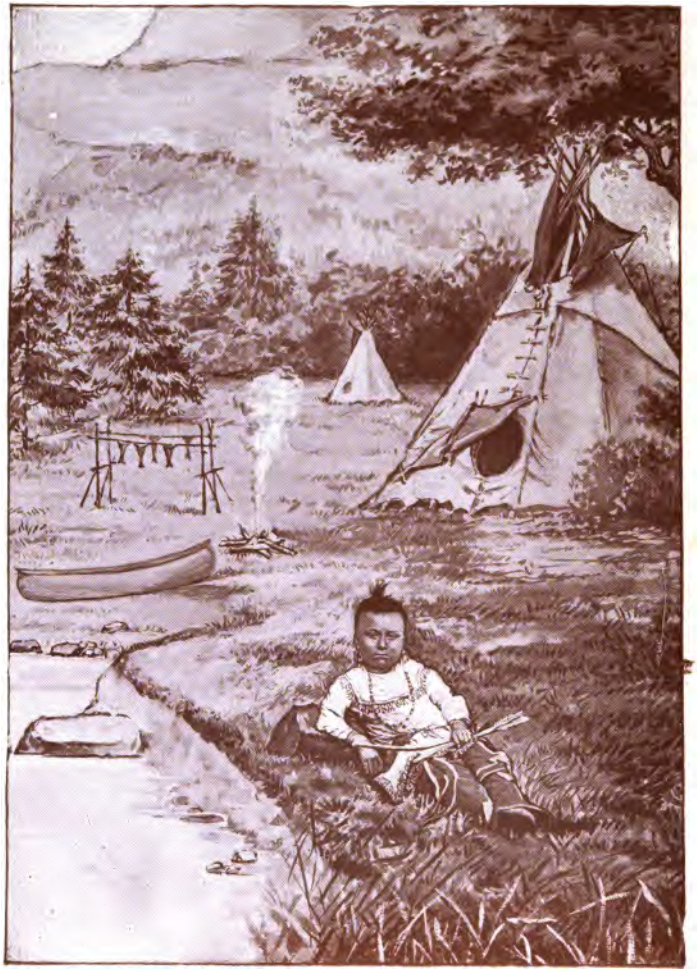

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"At the door on summer evenings
Sat the little Hiawatha;
Heard the whispering of the pine trees,
Heard the lapping of the water,
Sounds of music, words of wonder;

"Saw the fire-fly,
With the twinkle of its candle
Lighting up the brakes and bushes,
And he sang the song of children:

"Little fire-fly,
Light me with your little candle,
Ere upon my bed I lay me,
Ere in sleep I close my eyelids!"

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Where did Hiawatha sit?

When did he sit at the door?

What did he hear?

What did he see?

What was it doing?

What did he sing?

What was he going to do?

THE DOG IN THE MANGER.

A dog lay upon some hay.

A horse wanted to eat the hay.

The dog would not let the horse eat the hay.

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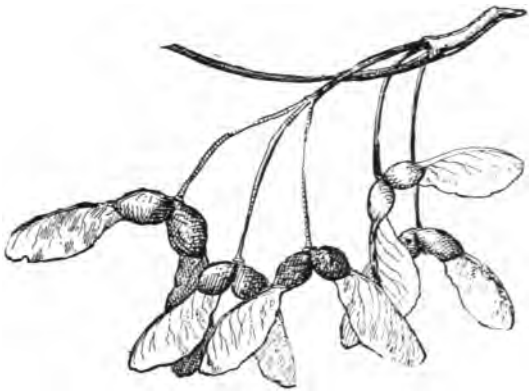

See the ____ seeds.

They have _____ stems.

They have wings.

Why do they have wings?

They will sleep in the _____.

When will they grow?

What will they make?

What seeds have wings?

Will you get some seeds with wings?

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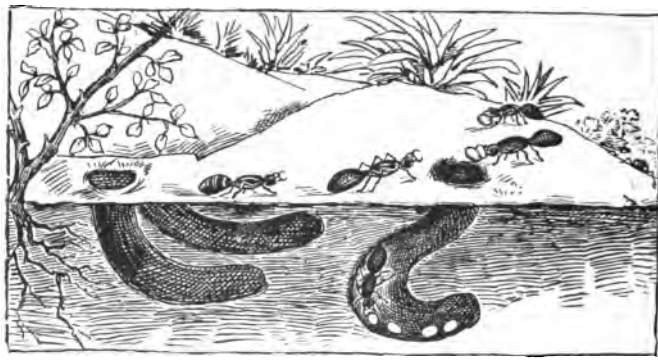

What do you see?
What are they doing?
Why are they working?
Do they work fast?
What do they eat?
When will they eat it?
How many legs have they?
Can they do much work?
Who made the nest?
How did they make it?

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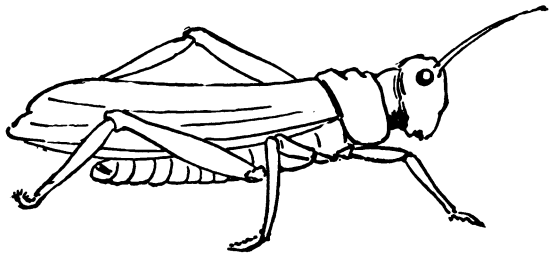

I am a _____. I can fly.

I have _____ wings.

I have _____ legs.

I play in the hay.

I do not like to work.

I like to jump! I have fun!

Oh, see the ants work.

They do not play.

They work and work.

Do not work, ants.

Do play a little.

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WHAT THE ANTS SAID.

It is cold.

I want something to eat.

I will go to the ants.

"Ants, will you let me have something to eat?"

"Why didn't you put something in your nest?"

"I liked to play."

"We can not let you eat what we have."

"We want to eat it."

"Go and play."

"There is a time to work and a time to play."

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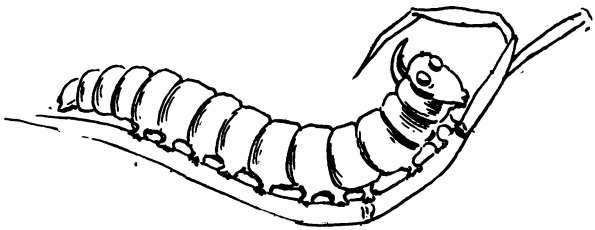

What is my name?

How many legs have I?

Where shall I sleep?

Who will make my bed?

What will it be made of?

How long shall I sleep?

When shall I wake up?

Who will wake me up?

What shall I eat?

What shall I do?

Will you make a picture of my bed?

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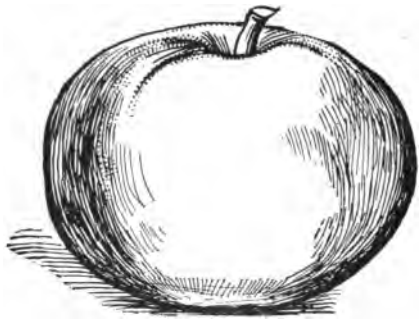

I am a big apple.

I am a cradle, too.

Who rocks me?

I have some baby seeds.

Where are my seeds?

My seeds are in a soft cradle.

What seeds have soft cradles?

You may eat me.

Do not eat my seeds.

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What is in my seeds?

Can you see a little tree?

When will the tree grow?

What will make it grow?

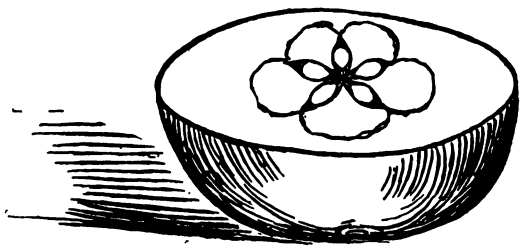
What will the tree drink?

How can the tree drink?

Will the tree have leaves?

Will the tree have flowers?

What will the flowers make?



Do you see something like a flower in this apple?

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John has something fine.

What is it?

Is it something to eat?

No, it is not good to eat.

Is it a dog?

No, you can ride on it.

Oh, it is a horse!

No, it is not as big as a horse.

It has no feet.

Has it eyes?

No, it can not see.

It has two wheels.

It is a _____ .

Will you make a picture of it?

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Do you see a _____ leaf?

What kind of a leaf is it?

Has it a long stem?

Do you like to eat acorns?

Do you like to play with acorns?

What do girls make of acorns?

What do boys make of acorns?

Do acorns have long stems?

Why do trees have acorns?

What kind of a tree is in an acorn?

Why will the tree have roots?

What can be made of the tree?

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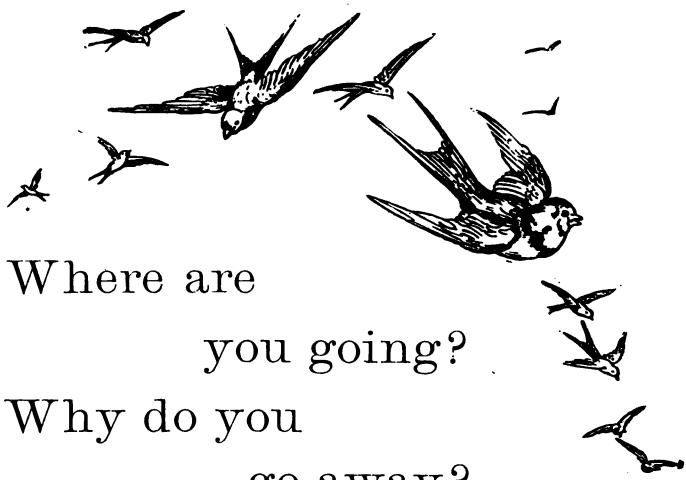

Where are
you going?
Why do you
go away?
How do you know the way?
Are all the birds going?
What birds will not go?
Will you come back?
When will you come back?
Will you come back to your nests?

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I like to see you.

Will you play with me?

I can not play.

I must work.

What work can you do?

You have a fine hat.

Where do you sleep?

Here is something for you.

I will give it to the man.

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What is my name?

Do my feet look alike?

What can I do with my back feet?

Where is my home?

What is it made of?

How did I make it?

What do I eat?

What do I do with my tail?

What do I give you?

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THE DOG AND HIS SHADOW.

A dog was walking by a pond.

He had some meat in his mouth.

He thought he saw a dog in the water.

He wanted that meat, too.

He barked at the dog.

He lost his meat.

What was the dog doing?

What did he have in his mouth?

What did he see?

What did he do then?

Do you like that dog?

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DANDELION.

Where do I live?

Where do I sleep?

When do I wake up?

What wakes me up?

What kind of a stem have I?

What can you make of my stem?

Will you get stems like my stems?

Have you seen my sap?

What did it do to your hands?

What can you make of my leaves?

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LITTLE FREEHOLD

S. J. Carter.

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I am a squirrel.

I have a fine nest.

It is in a hole in a tree.

I like acorns.

I shall put some acorns in my nest.

I shall not eat the acorns now.

When will you eat the acorns?

How can you put acorns in your nest?

Why do you work so fast?

Who told you it would be cold?

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"Then the little Hiawatha
Learned of every bird his language,
Learned their names, and all their secrets,
How they built their nests in Summer,
Where they hid themselves in Winter,
Talked with them whene'er he met them,
Called them Hiawatha's chickens."

What did Hiawatha learn?
How did he know the names of the birds?
How many birds did he talk with?
What did he call them?

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Give Kate a big apple.

Make a picture of an apple.

Give baby a little apple.

Make a picture of an acorn.

Make a picture of an oak leaf.

Give the squirrel some acorns.

Rock the little doll in the cradle.

Give Kate a drink.

The bird has an apple seed.

Make a picture of a maple seed.

Give the dog some meat.

How many toes has a dog?

How many toes has a bird?

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Mamma gave Kate some milk.

"Thank you for this good milk;" said Kate.

"Oh, thank the milkman," said mamma.

"Thank you, Mr. Milkman," said Kate.

"Oh, thank the cow," said the milkman

"Thank you, pretty cow," said Kate.

"Oh, thank the grass," said the cow.

"Thank you, pretty grass."

"Oh, thank the sun," said the grass.

"Thank you, big sun."

"Oh, thank Him who made me shine," said the sun.

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I am a crow. I have a big nest.

It is in the top of a pine tree.

Have you some eggs?

Yes, I have ——— big eggs.

What will you do when it is cold?

Who will go with you?

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Kate and John are at grandpa's house.

They will have a fine time.

Grandpa has two horses.

John can feed the horses.

He can ride the big horse.

The little horse runs away.

Mary looks for the eggs.

Grandma makes her a cake.

Grandma has some rabbits.

The rabbits run to John.

John can take them up in his hand.

Mary plays with the rabbits, too.

They sit up and look at Mary and John.

Mary likes to feed the rabbits.

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The squirrels have a nest in a tree by the house.

John gives them acorns.

John sees the squirrel's nest.

Grandpa has a big pond.

What fun Mary and John have in the pond.

Grandpa has a big dog.

John throws a stone into the pond.

The dog jumps in and looks for it.

Sometimes John plays the dog is a horse.

The dog lets Mary ride on his back.

The horses like the dog.

The dog sleeps with the horses.

John works for grandpa.

What can he do for grandpa?

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Put the cups on the table.

Fill the cups with water.

Put the cake on the table.

Put some flowers on the table.

Give Kate the big chair.

Put the dolls in the chairs.

Give the big doll a cup of water.

Give the little doll some milk.

Drink a cup of water, Kate.

Eat some cake, John.

Put the little doll in the cradle.

Rock the doll.

Put the big doll in bed.

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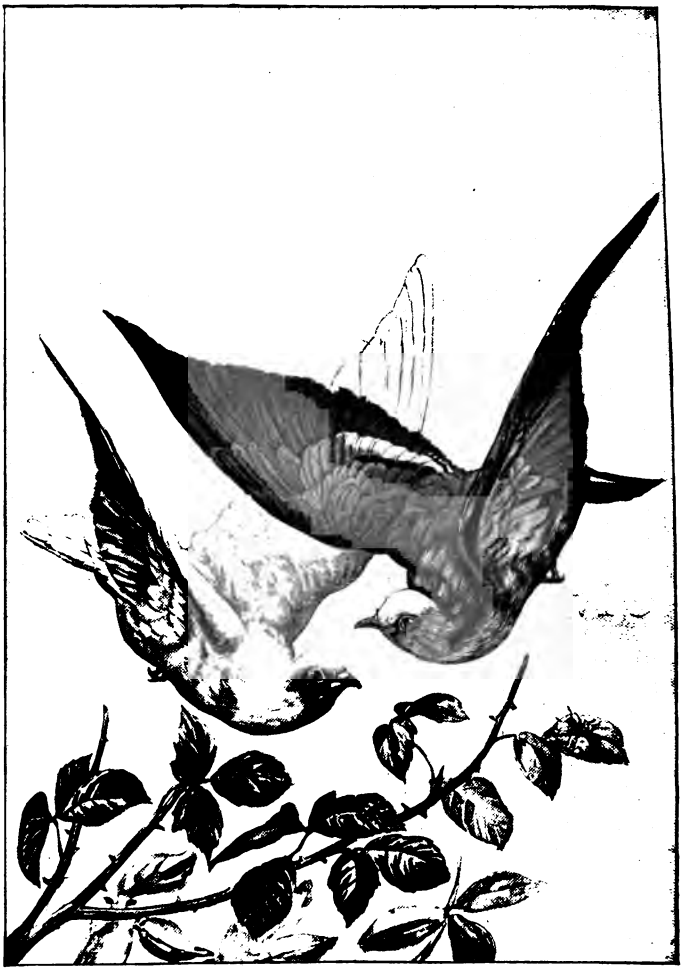

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THE ANT AND THE DOVE.

A thirsty ant was drinking at a pond.

She fell into the water.

A dove in a tree saw the ant.

The dove let a leaf fall into the water.

The ant got on the leaf and then ran to her home.

Soon a man tried to catch that dove.

The ant saw the man.

She bit him so the dove could get away.

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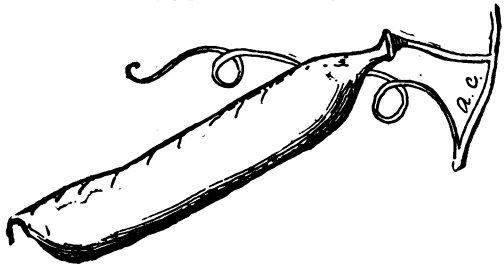

Don't you think I am a funny cradle?

Where are my baby seeds?

What did I grow on?

Have you seen a cradle like me? Was it on a tree?

Was it green? What was in it?

What plants have cradles like me?

Do the seeds look like my seeds?

Will you get some cradles that look like me?

Will you make a picture of me?

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AN INTERESTING FAMILY.

S. J. Carter.

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Do you know my name?

Do I live in a tree?

Can I run up a tree?

What do you like to eat?

What kind of legs have I?

Can you hear me run?

Why can't you hear me run?

How do I sit up?

Is my nest like a squirrel's nest?

How do I make my nest soft?

What kind of ears have I?

How will you take me up?

How many toes have I?

Does my tail look like a squirrel's tail?

Do I sleep all the time it is cold?

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"Of all the beasts he learned the language,
Learned their names and all their secrets,
How the beavers built their lodges,
Where the squirrels hid their acorns,
How the reindeer ran so swiftly,
Why the rabbit was so timid,
Talked with them whene'er he met them,
Called them Hiawatha's brothers."

What names did Hiawatha learn?
What did the squirrels tell him?
What did the reindeer tell him?
What did the rabbit tell him?
What did he call them?

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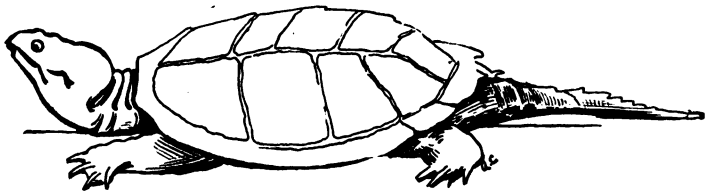

A rabbit said to a turtle, "Let us have a race."

"That will be fun," said the turtle.

"Where shall we run?"

"Let us run to that tree," said the turtle.

The rabbit said, "I can beat the turtle.

"I shall take a nap."

So the rabbit went to sleep.

The turtle went on.

When the rabbit woke up he saw the turtle at the tree.

Why did the turtle beat?

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THE CROW AND THE PITCHER.

A thirsty crow saw a little water in a pitcher.

He could not get a drink.

The pitcher was too little.

He tried to tip the pitcher over with his wings.

He could not do that.

He tried to break the pitcher with his bill.

He could not do that.

He put a stone in the pitcher.

The water came up a little but he could not get a drink.

He put more stones in the pitcher.

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The water came up so he got a drink.

What did the crow want?

How much water was in the pitcher?

Why didn't he take a drink?

What did he try to do with his wings?

What did he try to do then?

Why did he put a stone in it?

Did he get a drink then?

Did he give up?

How did he get a drink?

"If I cannot find a way, I will make one."

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HICKORY NUT.

What is your name, little nut?

Did you have a long stem?

Was it like a dandelion's stem?

Are you a cradle?

Have you a baby seed?

What is in your seed?

Why did you have such a hard cradle?

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THE GIRL AND THE APPLE.

A little girl saw a pretty red apple on a tree.

"I wish I could have you," said the girl; "Do come down.

"Why don't you come? Are you asleep? Do wake up!"

The apple did not fall down.

Then she said to the sun, "Will you wake up that apple?

He looked and looked at the apple.

The apple did not fall down.

Then she said to a bird, "Will you sing to that apple?"

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The apple did not fall down when the bird sang to it.

So she said to the wind, "Will you wake up that apple?"

The wind blew very hard.

The apple came down.

"Thank you, Mr. Wind," said the little girl.

"I shall take it to baby."

"Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are
Up above the world so high
Like a diamond in the sky."

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What is your name, pretty bird?

Is your song like a robin's?

What kind of a nest do you make?

How can you make it stay on the tree?

Does it look like a robin's nest?

How can I tell it from a robin's nest?

What kind of a tree will you make it in?

What flowers do you see?

Where are the little apples now?

What will the flowers do when the apples grow?

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THE CROW AND THE MEAT.

A crow sat in a tree.

She had some meat in her mouth.

A fox saw the crow.

He wanted the meat.

So he said, "You are a pretty bird! How well you can sing. Do sing to me."

The crow was so pleased she tried to sing.

Her meat fell down.

The fox ate it up.

Do you like such a fox?

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Where was the crow?

What did she have?

Why did the fox wish her to sing?

What did he say to the crow?

Why did the crow sing?

What did the fox do?

THE GOOSE THAT LAID GOLDEN EGGS.

A man had a goose.

She laid eggs of gold.

He thought she was full of gold.

He killed the goose.

He did not find any gold.

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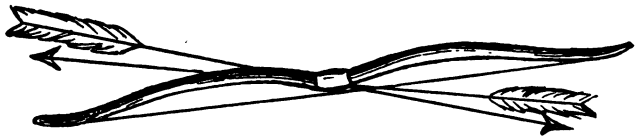

"Then Iagoo
Made a bow for Hiawatha;
From a branch of ash he made it,
From an oak bough made the arrows,
Tipped with flint and winged with
feathers
And the cord he made of deer-skin."

Who made a bow for Hiawatha?
What was it made of?
Why was it made of ash?
What were the arrows made of?
Why were the arrows made of oak?

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PILGRIM MONUMENT, PLYMOUTH, MASS.

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THE PILGRIMS.

What is this a picture of?

Who came to this place?

How did they come?

What was the name of the ship?

Who made houses for them?

What did they make the houses of?

Did they look like your house?

What did they plant?

Did the seeds grow?

What did they have to eat then?

Whom did they thank?

What did they call that day?

Have you a papa and a mamma?

What are you thankful for?

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I have little leaves.

You call my leaves pine needles.

I am green all the time.

I have funny flowers.

They do not look alike.

I have funny cradles.

You call my cradles——.

My seeds have wings.

They will fly away when they can get out.

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STORY OF A PINE TREE.

A pretty little pine tree lived in the woods.

She could play with the big trees, but she was not happy.

She did not like her needles.

"I wish I had leaves of gold," she said, and cried herself to sleep.

When she woke up, she had leaves of gold.

"Now I shall be happy," she said.

A man saw her pretty leaves.

He picked all of them.

Oh, how hard she cried!

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Then she said, "I wish I had glass leaves," and cried herself to sleep.

When she woke up she had her wish.

"Now I shall be very happy," she said.

Just then the wind blew hard.

It broke all of her leaves.

Then she cried very hard.

She cried herself to sleep saying, "I wish I had red leaves like the maple trees. The wind could not break those leaves."

When she woke up she had pretty red leaves.

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A goat and her baby walked by the tree. They ate all of the pretty leaves.

Then the pine tree cried very, very hard.

"O, I wish I had my pretty little needles now," she said.

And again she cried herself to sleep.

When she woke up, she had her pretty needles. Now she is happy all the time.

She seems to say, "God knows what is best for us."

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"Let us fly down." said the snow. "We shall make the flowers warm.

The boys will be glad to see us.

We shall make the trees pretty.

We shall put white dresses on everything.

That pine tree we can make into a fairy."

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ANNUNCIATION TO THE SHEPARD.

(*Plockhorst.*)

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Who are these men?

What were they doing?

What did they see?

What did the angels tell them?

What did the men do?

Where did they go?

What did they find?

Where was the baby?

How long ago did they find the baby?

What do we call that day?

How can you make your mamma happy on Christmas?

What can you do for your papa?

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I am a chestnut.

Once I was in a flower.

Mother nature took good care of me.

She gave me a fine cradle.

It is very soft.

Don't you think it is pretty?

I am not afraid of the squirrels.

They do not like to bite my cradle.

Who opened my cradle?

What kind of a tree shall I make?

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A cat and a monkey sat by a fire.

They put some chestnuts in the fire.

The monkey wanted to eat the nuts, but he did not wish to get them out of the fire.

So he said to the cat, "What fine claws you have.

You can get the nuts out."

The cat took one nut out.

"How well you did it," said the monkey.

Then she took all of the nuts out and the monkey ate them.

The poor cat did not have one nut.

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THE FOX AND THE GOAT.

A fox fell into a well.

He could not get out.

A thirsty goat walked by the well.

He saw the fox drinking.

He wished to have a drink too.

He could not get the water.

"Is the water good, Mr. Fox?"

"It is fine," said the fox.

"May I have some?" said the goat.

"You may have a little," said the fox.

Then the goat jumped into the well.

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The fox jumped on the goat's back, and so got out of the well.

The goat said, "How can I get out of the well?"

The fox said, "I do not know. You must look before you leap!"

Where was the fox?

Why didn't he get out?

Who saw him?

What did the goat say to the fox?

What did the fox say?

Why did he say it?

What did the goat do?

What did the fox do then?

Was he a kind fox?

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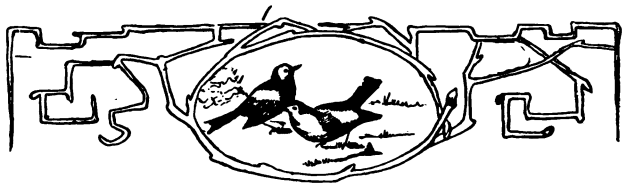

"Forth into the forest straightway,
All alone walked Hiawatha
Proudly, with his bow and arrows,
And the birds sang round him, o'er him,
'Do not shoot us, Hiawatha'."

Where did Hiawatha go?
Who went with him?
What did he take?
What did he hear?
Where were the birds?
What did they say?

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CHRISTMAS TREE.

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THE PINE TREE.

Long ago this pine tree lived in the woods with the big trees.

It was so little a rabbit could jump over it.

The big trees were cut down.

They were taken out of the woods.

The little tree said to the birds,

"Where are the big trees?"

"We saw them far away on a ship," said the birds.

"I wish I could be on a ship," said the little tree.

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The birds said, "Oh, do not go away. You make us happy."

One day some of the little trees were cut down.

They were taken out of the woods.

"Birdies, where are the trees?" said the little tree.

"We saw them in a house. They had pretty things on," said the birds.

"I wish I could be in a house," said the little tree.

Then the sunshine said, "I want you here. You make me happy."

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One cold day the little tree was cut down and taken into a house.

Kate put some candy on the tree.

John put a book on for papa and a doll for baby.

When they put many pretty presents on the tree, they went to bed.

When Kate woke up she found a doll as big as a baby.

John found a big sled.

Baby played with her new doll.

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Papa read the book John gave him.

Mamma liked the candy.

The little tree was very happy.

The next day the tree was put away in a dark place.

A little mouse was glad to see it.

The tree told the mouse about its home in the woods.

The tree made the mouse very happy.

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A man sat in his tent.

His camel looked into the tent.

"What can I do for you?" said the man.

"I am cold," said the camel.

"May I put my head in your tent?"

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"Oh, yes," said the man.

The camel put his head in.

Soon he said. "My front legs are cold.

May I put them in?"

"Oh, yes," said the man.

Then he put his front legs in the tent.

Soon the camel said, "My back legs are cold."

Then he went into the tent, but the man had to go out.

"Bad habits grow very fast."

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THE WOLF AND THE SHEEP.

A wolf saw a man taking care of some sheep.

"How are your sheep?" said the wolf.

"Go away. You will eat my sheep."

"I am a kind wolf. I shall not hurt your sheep."

He came to see the man many times.

At last the man liked the wolf.

The man wanted to go away one day.

"Let me take care of your sheep," said the wolf. "I will not let the dogs catch them."

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"You are so kind, I will let you take care of my sheep," said the man.

The wolf ate all of the sheep when the man went away.

Kate's mamma was ill.

Kate was playing in the sunshine.

"Let me catch you, pretty sunshine.

She tried to catch it in her hands.

When she opened her hands it was gone.

"Oh mamma, the sunshine ran away."

"You are my sunshine," said mamma.

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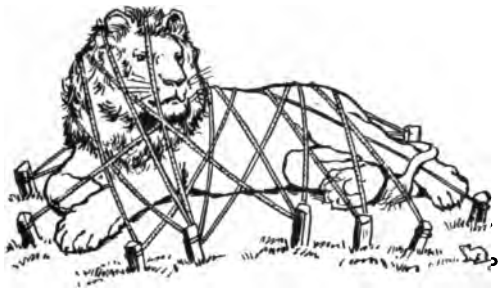

One day a lion was fast asleep.

A little mouse was playing near him.

She woke him up.

He caught her.

"Do let me go," said the mouse.

"Some day I may help you."

"How can you help me?" said the lion.

"I do not know how I can help you, but I will do all I can."

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The lion let the mouse go.

A long time after the mouse ran away, the lion was out walking.

He did not see the net the men had made to catch him.

He was caught in the net and could not get out.

How he cried for help!

The little mouse heard him.

She helped him out of the net.

How did she do it?

"Little deeds of kindness
Little words of love,
Make the earth an Eden
Like the heaven above."

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THE LITTLE CLOUD.

A tiny cloud was sailing along.

"I wish I were a bird," said the cloud.

"Then I could make some one happy with my sweet song. I am too little to be of any use."

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It sailed on and met other little clouds.

They saw some thirsty flowers.

They saw a brook that had but little water.

Then they let the rain fall down.

The flowers looked up.

The brook sang a sweet song.

They flowers and the brook tried to say, "Thank you. Nothing is too little to be of use."

"Do thy duty that is best."

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LINCOLN'S EARLY HOME.

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Lincoln was a poor boy.

He lived in a log house.

The house had one door and a big fire-place.

He wore old clothes and slept on a bed of leaves.

He had to work hard.

He did his work well.

He liked to read and write.

Sometimes he wrote on a board with a burnt stick.

He had only three books.

He read them over and over.

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A man lent him a book.

One night Lincoln put the book near his bed, so he could read it as soon as it was light.

The rain came in and spoiled it.

He worked three days to pay for the book.

He had to walk a long, long way to school.

Lincoln grew up to be a good man.

What did he do for the poor black people?

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"And the rabbit from his pathway
Leaped aside and at a distance
Sat upon his haunches,
Saying to the little hunter,
Do not shoot me, Hiawatha."

What did Hiawatha see?
What did the rabbit do?
How did he sit?
What did he say?

THE CAT AND THE MICE.

Many mice were in a house.
A cat caught some of them.

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Then the other mice would not come out of the hole.

She could not catch a mouse.

Then she played she could not walk.

The mice were not afraid of her.

They came out of the hole.

The cat caught one of them.

The other mice ran into a hole and would not come out.

The cat made herself look like a black ball.

The mice looked out of the hole.

Not one would come out.

"You cannot catch us this time," they said.

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THE THREE BEARS.

Once three bears lived in the woods.

One was a big bear.

One was a middle-sized bear.

One was a little bear.

The big bear was the papa.

The middle-sized bear was the mamma.

The little bear was the baby.

The big bear had a big cup.

The middle-sized bear had a middle-sized cup.

The little bear had a little cup.

The big bear had a big bed.

The middle-sized bear had a middle-sized bed.

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The little bear had a little bed.

One day they went out to walk.

Little Goldenhair was picking flowers in the woods.

She walked by the bears' house.

She looked in.

Then she went in.

She was very thirsty.

She saw the milk in the cups.

The milk in the big cup was too hot for her.

The milk in the middle-sized cup was too cold for her.

The milk in the little cup was just right.

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She drank all of it.

Then she sat in the big chair.

That was too hard for her.

She sat in the middle-sized chair.

That was too soft for her.

She sat in the little chair.

That was so little she broke it.

Then she got on the big bed.

That was too high at the head.

She got on the middle-sized bed.

That was too high at the foot.

She got on the little bed.

That was just right.

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She went fast asleep.

Soon the bears came home.

"Someone has been drinking from my cup," said the big bear in a big voice.

"Someone has been drinking from my cup," said the middle sized bear in a middle-sized voice.

"Someone has been drinking from my cup. I have no milk," said the little bear in a little voice.

"Someone has been sitting in my chair," said the big bear in a big voice.

"Someone has been sitting in my chair," said the middle-

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sized bear in a middle-sized voice.

"Someone has been sitting in my chair," said the little bear in a little voice.

"Someone has been on my bed," said the big bear in a big voice.

"Someone has been on my bed," said the middle-sized bear in a middle-sized voice.

"Some one has been on my bed," said the little bear in the little voice. "Here she is fast asleep!"

Goldenhair woke up.

She ran away as fast as she could.

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WASHINGTON AND HIS MOTHER

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When George Washington was a little boy he wrote his name on the ground.

Then he put seeds in his name.

When the seeds came up, what did they say?

George wanted to be a sailor.

He packed up his clothes and put them on a ship.

He asked his mother if he could go.

She told him she did not like to have him go so far away.

So he took his clothes from the ship and stayed at home.

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A man had a fine horse.

The horse would not let the man ride him.

He told George he could have the horse if he could ride him without falling off.

George jumped on the horse.

The horse ran down the road.

When George rode back he said to the man, "Here is your horse."

"I gave him to you," said the man.

"No, he is not my horse. I fell off," said George.

The man made him keep the horse.

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THE TAR BABY.

A fox wished to have some fun with a rabbit.

He made a baby out of tar, and put it by the road.

A rabbit walked by the tar baby.

"How do you do?" said the rabbit. "Why don't you talk to me? I will hit you if you don't talk."

Then the rabbit hit the tar baby with one of his paws.

The tar baby held it fast.

"Let go of my paw," said the rabbit. "If you don't let go, I will hit you with another paw."

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The baby did not let go.

Then the rabbit hit him with another paw.

The tar baby held it fast.

The rabbit could not get that paw away.

"If you don't let go, I will hit you with my head," said the rabbit.

Then the rabbit hit him with his head.

"What are you doing?" said the fox, as he walked by.

"O, do help me," cried the rabbit.

The fox laughed and laughed, and then helped him get away.

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THE WHITE BLACKBIRD.

A blackbird saw some doves having a good time.

"I wish I were a dove," said the bird. "I will paint myself white. Then the doves will like me."

He painted himself white and went to the doves' house.

One day they heard him sing. Then they knew he was not a dove.

They would not let him live with them.

He went to the blackbirds.

"You cannot live with us," they said, "You are not black."

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Five little peas lived in a pod.

A boy picked the pod, and threw the peas into the air.

One pea fell on top of a house.

It soon had a little plant.

A poor sick girl saw the plant.

"The dear little plant has come to help me get well," she said.

Each day she looked at it.

She talked to it every day.

The plant seemed to talk, too.

It had a pretty little bud.

The bud opened.

A little white flower came out, and the girl was well.

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A boy was taking care of some sheep.

Near by, some men were working in a field.

The boy wished to have some fun.

So he called out. "Wolf, wolf."

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The men ran to catch the wolf.

"O, I was only in fun," said the boy.

Another time he called, "Wolf, wolf."

Again the men ran to help him.

One day a wolf did come.

He called as loud as he could "Wolf, wolf."

The men thought he was in fun.

They did not go to him, and the wolf ate the sheep.

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WHY DANDEL'ONS GROW.

Long ago a lady lost her baby.

She hunted and hunted for her baby but could not find her.

She cried very hard.

Her tears fell into the grass.

Pretty little dandelions came up to make her happy.

Now they come up to make us happy.

How can you be like a dandelion?

"Love one another."

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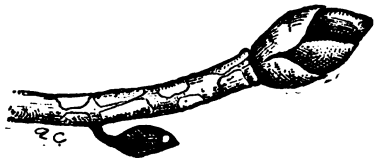

I am a horse-chestnut bud.

I lived on a tree.

When I was very little, the tree said, "It will soon be cold. Here is a white blanket for you."

Then she put brown blankets over my white blankets.

I said, "The rain will come in."

How did she keep the rain out?

Can you find a bud like me and put it in water?

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"From his lodge went Hiawatha,
Dressed for travel, armed for hunting;
Dressed in deerskin shirt and leggings,
Richly wrought with quills and wampum;
On his head his eagle feathers,
Round his waist his belt of wampum,
In his hand his bow of ash-wood."

Where did Hiawatha go?
Why did Hiawatha go?
What did he wear?
What was on his head?
Why did he take his bow?

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DARE TO SPEAK THE TRUTH.

A poor man lost his ax in a river. He cried when he could not find it.

Mercury saw the man crying.

"What can I do for you?" said Mercury.

"I wish I could find my ax."

Mercury jumped into the river.

He brought up an ax of gold.

"That is not my ax," said he.

Then Mercury brought up a silver ax.

"That is not my ax."

Then Mercury brought up the lost ax.

"O, that is my ax," said the woodman.

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Mercury was so pleased he gave the man the three axes.

Another woodman thought he would get three axes.

He threw his ax into the river and cried and cried.

Mercury saw him crying and said, "What can I do for you?"

"I wish I could find my ax," said the woodman.

Mercury jumped into the river.

He brought up an ax of gold.

"O, that is my ax," said the woodman.

"You know it is not your ax," said Mercury.

"I will not get any ax for you."

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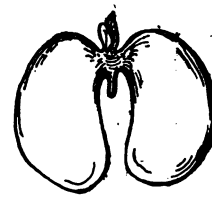
Once I was a little bean.

Nellie put me in water one night.

In the morning I was very big.



Nellie opened me.

She saw my little leaves.

She saw what I had to eat.

She put me in the ground.

It was very dark.

I sent out my little roots.

I jumped up out of the ground.

Nellie put me in again.

I jumped up again.

She was going to put me back when I asked her to watch me.

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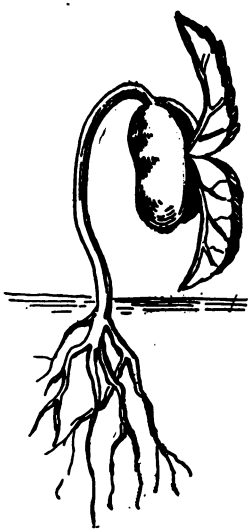

"Look at my big leaves.

"Where is my food?

"Will you give me a stick?

"How do you think I shall hold on to the stick?

"Soon I shall have pretty flowers.

"Long cradles will come out of my flowers.

"Baby beans will be in the cradles.

"What will be in the beans?"

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THE PROUD APPLE BRANCH.

A little apple branch covered with sweet flowers was swinging on a tree.

A lady took the branch to her home.

It felt very proud to be in such a fine house.

As it looked out it saw some little dandelions in the grass.

"I should not like to live in the grass," said the apple branch. "I am better than the dandelions."

Just then the sunshine whispered to the apple branch,

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"Look at the dear little dandelions," it said.

"How pretty they are! How much good they do!"

"What can they do," said the branch.

"You will see," said the sunshine.

Soon the apple branch saw a poor boy dig up some dandelions for his mother to cook.

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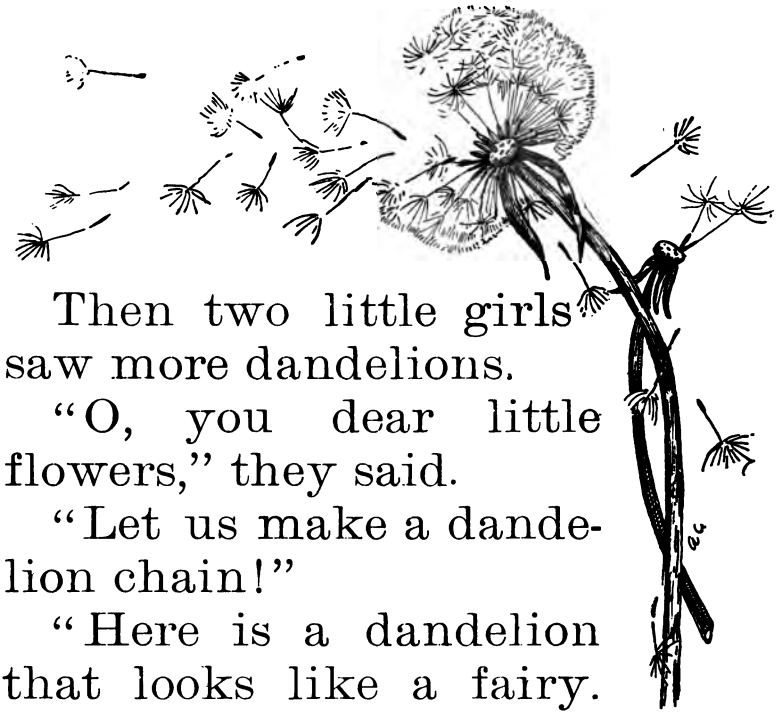

Then two little girls saw more dandelions.

"O, you dear little flowers," they said.

"Let us make a dandelion chain!"

"Here is a dandelion that looks like a fairy. I shall take it home."

When her mamma saw it, she said, "What beautiful sails the seeds have. I will paint a picture of it."

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LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.

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LITTLE Red Riding Hood was taking a cake to her grandmother.

As she was walking through the woods, a wolf said to her, "Where are you going?"

"I am going to my grandmother's," said Red Riding Hood.

"Will you let me have a little of the cake?" said the wolf.

"No, I want to give all of it to my grandmother."

Then the wolf ran to the grandmother's house.

She was out walking.

He jumped into her bed and put on her cap.

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Soon Red Riding Hood went into the house.

"What big eyes you have, grandma."

"All the better to see with," said the wolf.

"What big ears you have, grandma."

"All the better to hear with," said the wolf.

"What big teeth you have, grandma."

"All the better to eat you up," said the wolf.

He was just going to eat Red Riding Hood when her grandmother came home.

The men in the woods caught the wolf.

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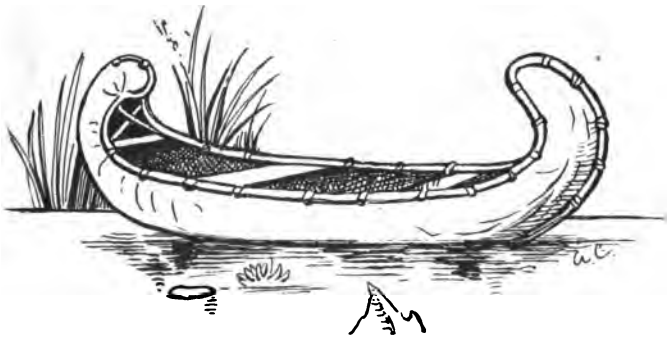

"Give me of your bark, O Birch-Tree!
Of your yellow bark, O Birch-Tree!
Growing by the rushing river,
Tall and stately in the valley!

I a light canoe will build me,
That shall float upon the river,
Like a yellow leaf in Autumn,
Like a yellow water lily!"

What tree did Hiawatha talk to?
Where did the tree grow?
What did he wish the tree to give him?

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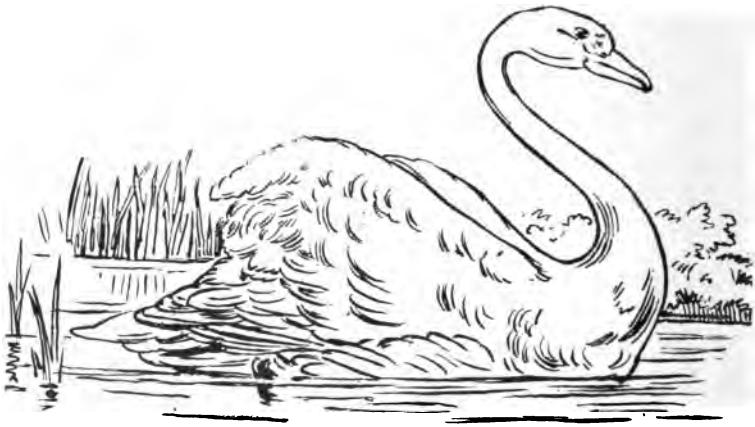

Do you know my name?

Does my bill look like a robin's?

Do you think I have a pretty neck?

Is my nest in a tree?

Do you like to see me swim?

Would you like to have me give you a ride?

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THE UGLY DUCKLING.

A big duck sat on six eggs.

Five little ducks came out of the eggs.

The little ducks wanted the big duck to go out to swim.

She would not leave her egg.

At last the egg cracked! Something came out of it.

He looked like a duck, but he was larger than the little ducks.

A proud bird called him an ugly duckling.

The little ducks were not kind to him.

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They would not play with him.

Once he saw some beautiful white birds swimming in a pond.

He wished he could look like those beautiful birds.

Every day he tried to swim as they did.

He thought they would not make fun of him.

So he asked them if he could stay with them.

They were glad to have him stay and live with them.

After a time he looked into the pond.

He saw that he was a beautiful white swan.

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Some little mice were in a nest.

One of them wanted to go out to get something to eat.

Her mamma said, "I am afraid to have you go. I will get something for you."

When the mamma went for the food, the little mouse said, "I am not afraid to go out. I want to see everything."

So she ran out of the nest.

She saw some cheese in a trap.

She did not know it was a trap. She ran into it but could not get out.

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THE wind said to the sun, "I am stronger than you are."

"See that man with a big coat," said the sun. "Let us have a race.

The one who can make him take his coat off is the stronger."

"All right," said the wind. "I can do that very quickly."

So he blew and blew.

The man was so cold he would not take his coat off.

Then the sun smiled at the man.

He was soon so warm he took his coat off.

Kind words are stronger than unkind words.

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A fox has such bright eyes, he hunts at night

In the daytime he sleeps in his hole in the ground.

He covers his tracks with his long bushy tail.

His ears are so sharp, he can hear a dog when he is far away.

Men like to catch foxes to get their beautiful fur.

Foxes are so sly that they are not often caught.

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